

February 20, 1976

1975 session of the Nebraska Unicameral, Brands and Marks Division was made a part of the Nebraska Brand Committee. You know I had that bill last year that changed that. So it is all in one fund now.

SENATOR DUIS: Senator Stull, really I understand the bill but I am trying to get an answer for these folks and actually it isn't costing any more now to register the brand than it did before. It was \$5. You are going to \$15 but the increased amount for registration is actually going to defray the cost of inspection. Rather than saying instead of 30¢ for the inspection, it is going to cost 40¢. You have gone on a...they have just gone on a one shot basis and I want these folks to know that the increased amount of money, the registration isn't responsible for the increase. It is the inspection. Is that a true or false statement?

SENATOR STULL: I think your assumption is correct. I am sorry it took me so long to get to your answer.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kime.

SENATOR KIME: Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I think page 4, line 18 and 19 will explain to Senator Lewis and Senator Duis the cost of the brands when you register them. \$15 when you renew. \$15 a brand, if you buy a new one regardless of where they are at. Nebraska has one of the best...this brand is a registered trademark. It can't be used by anybody else, any company or anything else. Nebraska has one of the best brand laws in the State of Nebraska and this fee is increased to continue this work in inspection and recovery of stolen cattle and for the salaries of the inspectors and we are having to increase the number of inspectors year after year because of the mobility of these cow feeders and things like that, they can go all over with their trucks and their pickups and pickup these cattle anywhere and that is the reason we have to have this extra registration.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Are there others that want to speak on it?

PRESIDENT: Yes. I thought you wanted to respond. Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask Senator Duis a question if he will come back to his mike. Senator Duis, am I led to believe then by what you said that the rancher who buys the brand, and he is going to have to pay from \$5 to \$15 now, with the inspection which not only goes on at the ranch but also goes on at the feedyards, the rancher is actually going to be subsidizing the inspection at the feedlot, is that correct?

SENATOR DUIS: I didn't try to lead you to believe anything. I merely was asking a question of Senator Stull for clarification, Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Did I gain that from the statement that you